

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 OMB-01 /074 W

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R 031400Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1762

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION USNATO

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AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 NICOSIA 1800

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR PINT CY GR TU

SUBJ: RECENT FOCI OF CYPRIOT PRESS

1. SUMMARY: LOCAL MEDIA OVER PAST FIVE DAYS HAVE FOCUSED ON: BRUSSELS MEETINGS AND VIENNA II; DECISION OF COE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION RE ADMISSIBILITY OF GOC COMPLAINT AGAINST TURKEY; CBC DEBATE ON INTERCOMMUNAL RELATIONS; AND GOC REFUSAL TO "ALLOW" REGISTRATION OF BRITISH PROPERTIES WITH TFSC AUTHORITIES. GENE-
RAL SATISFACTION WITH KARAMANLIS-DEMIREL MEETING IS TEMPERED BY MODEST EXPECTATIONS FROM VIENNA II. FOR MOMENT, INTENSE CRITI-
CISM AGAINST USG ROLE IN CYPRUS PROBLEM HAS ABATED. END SUMMARY.

2. GREEK CYPRIOT MEDIA GAVE STRONGLY UPBEAT COVERAGE TO KARAMAN-
LIS-DEMIREL MEETING. JUNE 1 PAPERS HIGHLIGHTED POSITIVE ELEMENTS OF JOINT COMMUNIQUE: PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES, SUPPORT FOR INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS. ROSEATE PRESS TREATMENT GROUNDED IN LARGE PART ON COMMENTS BY GOG OFFICIALS: E.G., BRUSSELS BACK-
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GRUNDER EXPRESSING OPTIMISM RE FUTURE SETTLEMENT OF GRECO-TURKISH

DIFFERENCES, KARAMANLIS/ITSIOS REMARKS ON RETURN TO ATHENS. PRO-MAKARIOS PHILELEFTHEROS JUNE 3 CALLED RESULT "A STEP IN RIGHT DIRECTION" WHICH COULD HAVE GOOD IMPACT ON VIENNA II. LEFTIST PRESS MORE CAUTIOUS: COMMUNIST HARAVGHI TOOK WAIT-AND-SEE ATTITUDE, WHILE LYSSARIDES' TA NEA EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT NATO "FAILED" TO REMOVE CYPRUS PROBLEM FROM ONGOING UN-SPONSORED TALKS.

A. RE VIENNA II, GREEK PRESS REFLECTS CONSENSUS THAT MAJOR PROGRESS UNLIKELY. ALL MEDIA (INCLUDING CBC) REPORT WALDHEIM REMARKS (1) WELCOMING BRUSSELS OUTCOME BUT (2) OPINING THAT PROSPECTS FOR FURTHER AGREEMENTS IN VIENNA ARE "LIMITED". PRO-MAKARIOS PAPERS (SEMI-OFFICIAL PHILELEFTHEROS, WEEKLY KYPROS) CLAIM THAT "STRUGGLE" STILL AHEAD, WARN AGAINST ILLUSIONS GROWING OUT OF BRUSSELS MEETINGS. SOME RIGHTIST PAPERS -- LURID MAKHI, JULTRA PATRIS -- HAVE ALREADY WRITTEN OFF VIENNA II AS USELESS EFFORT. UNDERCURRENT OF COMMENT IS THAT, IF TURKS REMAIN ADAMANT AT VIENNA II, GOC WILL APPEAL AGAIN TO UNSC.

B. TREATMENT OF USG HAS ABATED CONSIDERABLY FROM LAST WEEK'S STRIDENT DEMAND FOR MAJOR AMERICAN PRESSURE ON TURKEY. OVER PAST FEW DAYS MOST PAPERS SILENT ON USG ROLE. MAIN WEEKEND COMMENT CAME FROM LEFTIST PRESS WARNING THAT NATO CANNOT SOLVE CYPRUS PROBLEM, CAUTIONING AGAINST USG "TRAP" FOR GREECE IN BRUSSELS.

C. TURK CYPRIOT PRESS GAVE RELATIVELY LESS PLAY TO BRUSSELS TALKS; ITS MAIN FOCUS WAS ON DEMIREL'S MEETINGS AND REMARKS. ANTI-DENKTASH HALKIN SESI RAN TWO EDITORIALS CALLING ON "OUTSIDE POWERS" TO LET GREECE AND TURKEY SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS WITHOUT INTERFERENCE, AND ACCUSING USG OF SIDING WITH GREECE THROUGHOUT COURSE OF CYPRUS PROBLEM.

3. MOST GREEK PAPERS TREAT DECISION BY COE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (REF STRASBOURG 099) RE ADMISSIBILITY OF GOC COMPLAINT AGAINST TURKEY AS MAJOR POLITICAL, MORAL, LEGAL VICTORY FOR GOC. CLERIDES' AGHON ARGUED THAT DECISION EQUIVALENT TO WESTERN EUROPEAN "LEGAL" RECOGNITION OF GOC. TURK CYPRIOT PRESS REJECTED DECISION, FOCUSING ON GOT STATEMENT THAT IT DOES NOT REGARD MAKARIOS ADMINISTRATION AS REPRESENTING CYPRUS STATE (REF ANKARA 4284).

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4. MAY 29 CBC TELEVISED A DEBATE AMONG SOCIALIST LEADER VASSOS LYSSARIDES, GLAFKOS CLERIDES, AKEL LEADER PAPAIOANNOU, RIGHTIST POLITICIAN EVDOKAS (ALL MEMBERS OF NATIONAL COUNCIL) IN WHICH SPEAKERS AGREED ON NEED FOR MAJOR GREEK CYPRIOT EFFORT TO WIN RAPPROCHEMENT WITH TURK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY. DIFFERENCES EMERGED IN DIAGNOSIS OF PROBLEM: PAPAIOANNOU AND LYSSARIDES BLAMED "IMPERIALIST CONSPIRACIES" FOR PRESENT WOES OF PEOPLE, WHILE

CLERIDES PUT BLAME MAINLY ON GREEK CYPRIOTS FOR THEIR SERIOUS ERRORS OF PAST. DEBATE ELICITED WIDE RANGE OF PRESS COMMENT, MOST OF IT AGREEING WITH CLERIDES. RATHER DEFENSIVELY, PRO-MAKARIOS WEEKLY DHIMOKRATIKI CLAIMED THAT GOC HAD LONG RECOGNIZED NEED FOR RAPPROCHEMENT WITH TURK CYPRIOTS BUT HAD NOT "IMPLEMENTED IT TO NECESSARY EXTENT". ONLY LYSSARIDES' PAPERS CRITICIZED CLERIDES. DENKTASH WELCOMED RECOGNITION BY GREEK CYPRIOTS OF EXISTENCE OF TURK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY, BUT CALLED WHOLE DEBATE "15 YEARS LATE". (REFS FBIS TA MAY 311247Z AND TA MAY 311526Z). COMMENT. LYSSARIDES WAS BEST SPEAKER, BUT MANY VIEWERS BELIEVE CLERIDES HAD MOST THOUGHTFUL PRESENTATION. END COMMENT.

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5. REGISTRATION OF BRITISH PROPERTIES. PRESS REPORTED LAST WEEK THAT FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES HAD REJECTED ALLEGED REQUEST BY VISITING FCO OFFICIAL HAWLEY FOR GOC "CONSENT" TO REGISTRATION OF BRITISH-OWNED PROPERTIES WITH TFSC OFFICIALS. REPORT BROUGHT FORTH NUMEROUS CRITICAL COMMENTS AGAINST UK. SENSATIONALIST TO THARROS JUNE 2 WARNED THAT ANY BRITISH MOVE TO REGISTER PROPERTIES WOULD LEAD TO TOTAL BREAK OF RELATIONS AND SYSTEMATIC EFFORT

TO EXPEL BRITISH FROM SBA'S. COMMENT: HIGH COMMISSION (PERCEVAL)
TELLS US THAT PRESS ARTICLES COMBINE FACTS OF MAY 17 CHRISTOPHIDES-
HAWLEY MEETING WITH FANTASY OF UK REQUEST FOR GOC "PERMISSION"
FOR REGISTRATION. INTERESTINGLY, CHRISTOPHIDES ASKED HAWLEY
FOR WRITTEN REPLY TO APRIL 26 GOC NOTES VERBALES WARNING AGAINST
COOPERATION WITH TFSC OFFICIALS (REF NICOSIA 1535), WHILE FONMIN
COUNSELLOR MARKIDES TOLD US EARLIER (MAY 14) THAT NO FORMAL
RESPONSE WOULD BE NECESSARY. END COMMENT.
CRAWFORD

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